

# Preston New Road - Continuous Monitoring Update

## 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019



Image from Google Maps 2018

Prepared for:

Cuadrilla Bowland Ltd.



# Document Control Page

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|------------------|--|
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| Document Title   | Preston New Road – Continuous Monitoring Update<br>25 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 to 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2019 |
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## 1 Outline of Monitoring

Cuadrilla Bowland Ltd has appointed GGS to conduct continuous ambient air quality monitoring at the Preston New Road (PNR) wellsite before, during and after the hydraulic fracturing and well testing operations.

GGS has been undertaking continuous air quality monitoring at the PNR wellsite since early 2018. Continuous ambient methane monitoring commenced in February 2018. Continuous ambient monitoring of certain additional air quality parameters commenced in May 2018.

These monitoring requirements were codified in Cuadrilla Bowland's Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan (EMMP) (Version 5.1, May 2018) as required by pre-operational condition 2 of the site's environmental permit (EPR/AB3101MW/V004). The EMMP was approved by the Environment Agency on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018 (CAR/UP3434VF/0306642).

A commitment to provide regular updates on the results gathered by this monitoring is included within the site's EMMP. This continuous monitoring update (CMU) report forms the latest regular update since the start of hydraulic fracturing operations, which commenced during week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

This CMU summarises the continuous monitoring results recorded between 25<sup>th</sup> February and 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019

The parameters covered by this report are as detailed within the site's EMMP, and are summarised in Table 1 below.

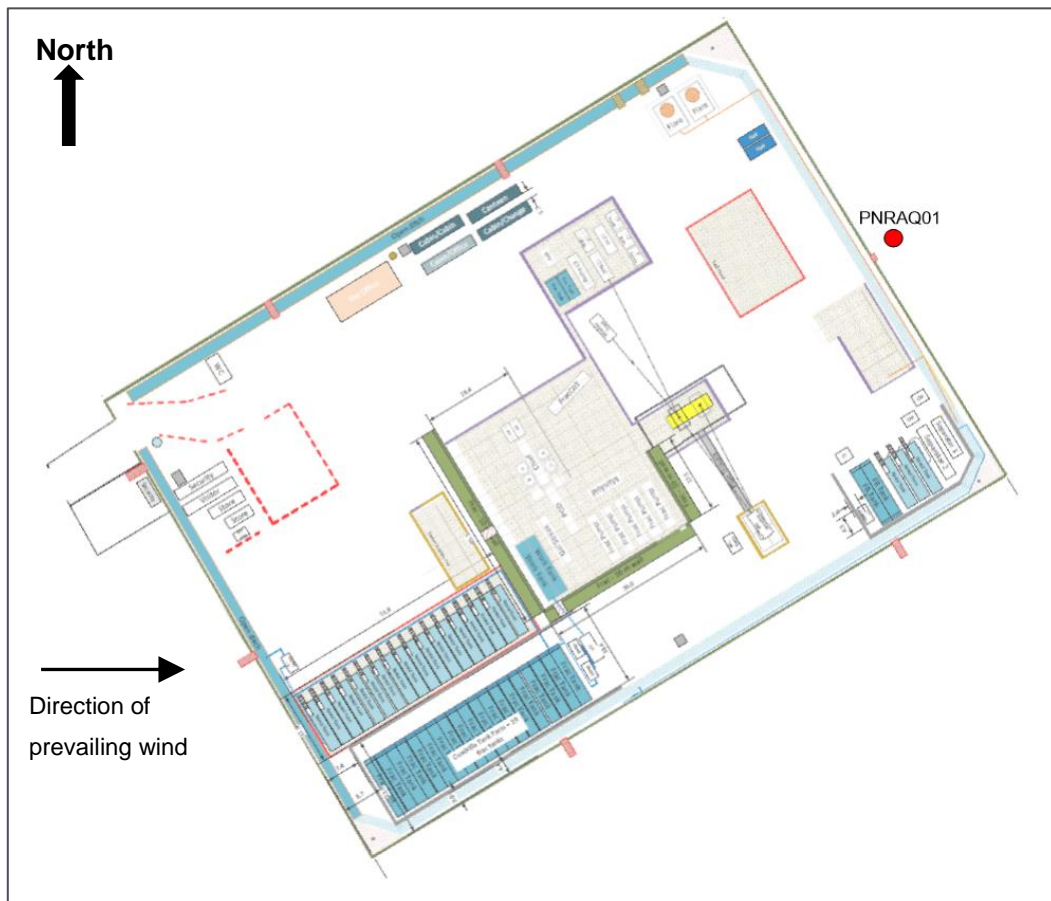
Preston New Road – Continuous Monitoring Update  
25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019

**Table 1.** Required Ambient Air Quality Parameters.

| Parameters                              | Monitoring frequency                         |
|---|--|
| Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> )              | Continuous monitoring (10-minute average)    |
| Nitrogen dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )     | Continuous monitoring (10 minutely sampling) |
| PM <sub>10</sub>                        | Continuous monitoring (10 minutely sampling) |
| Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOC) | Continuous monitoring (10 minutely sampling) |

## 2 Site Monitoring Location

A continuous monitoring station has been established at the site in order to capture the prevailing down-wind concentrations for the required air quality parameters. Figure 1 below illustrates the location of the monitoring station.



**Figure 1.** Location of prevailing down-wind ambient air quality monitoring station shown by red dot (PNRAQ01). Drawing adapted from the site 'as-built' plan.

## 3 Continuous Monitoring Update

### 3.1 Background

GGs has been undertaking continuous air quality monitoring for all reported parameters at the PNR wellsite since mid-2018. The instruments used and monitoring specification are as detailed within the site's EMMP (Section 8).

Where available, the monitoring results have been compared against the applicable Daily Air Quality Index (DAQI) as defined by Defra<sup>1</sup>. DAQIs exist for both nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter (specifically PM<sub>10</sub>). DAQIs present the level of air pollution at a given location, along with actions to take where pollutant levels are elevated. Each set of monitoring results have been presented alongside the relevant DAQI bands to indicate the overall level of air quality at the monitoring location, which is immediately down prevailing wind of the onsite activities.

### 3.2 Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)

Methane is naturally occurring in the environment and arises from organic rich soils and ruminant cattle. It is typically present in the atmosphere at approximately 2 ppmv, but this can vary due to local influences. It is also the principle constituent of the target gas to be produced from the geological formations that are proposed to be hydraulically fractured.

#### 3.2.1 Methodology

Continuous monitoring of methane at PNRAQ01 began in February 2018. Data is presented below from the 25<sup>th</sup> February to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019. In line with the commitment within the site's EMMP the data is presented as a 10 minute average. No Daily Air Quality Index (DAQI) exists for methane.

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<sup>1</sup> Daily Air Quality Index, Defra 2018[<https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/air-pollution/daqj>], accessed October 2018.

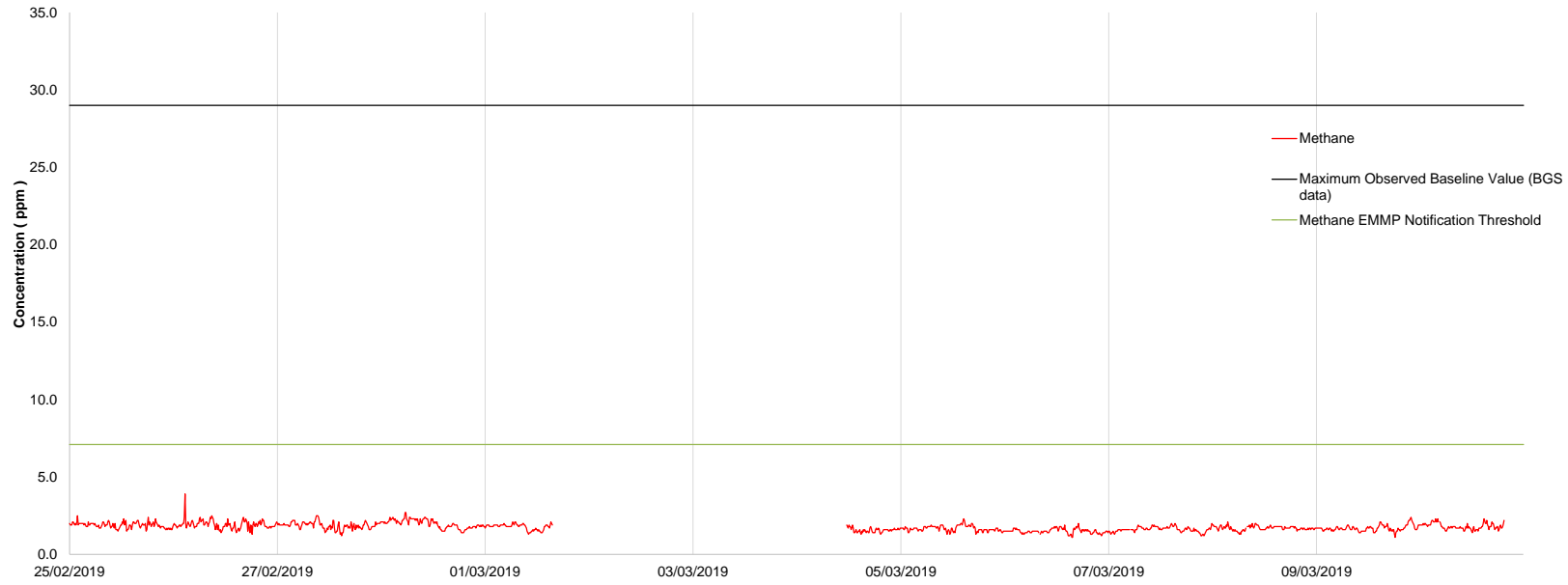
### 3.2.2 Results

A summary of the continuous monitoring results are presented in the graph on the following page. A maximum and minimum table is also presented. The observed results are graphed against both the threshold at which the site's EMMP requires the Environment Agency to be notified, and the maximum level observed during baseline conditions, that is, prior to site construction. The baseline data is based on results collected by the British Geological Survey at a monitoring location approximately 450m from the site.

The latest methane monitoring results in line with the baseline results observed at the site.

An issue resulting in a loss of power to the monitoring instruments occurred at the site on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 which interrupted the monitoring period resulting in some lost data. The exact period of data loss is dependent on the individual battery life of each instrument. Additional measures have been introduced to reduce the likelihood of such instances recurring.



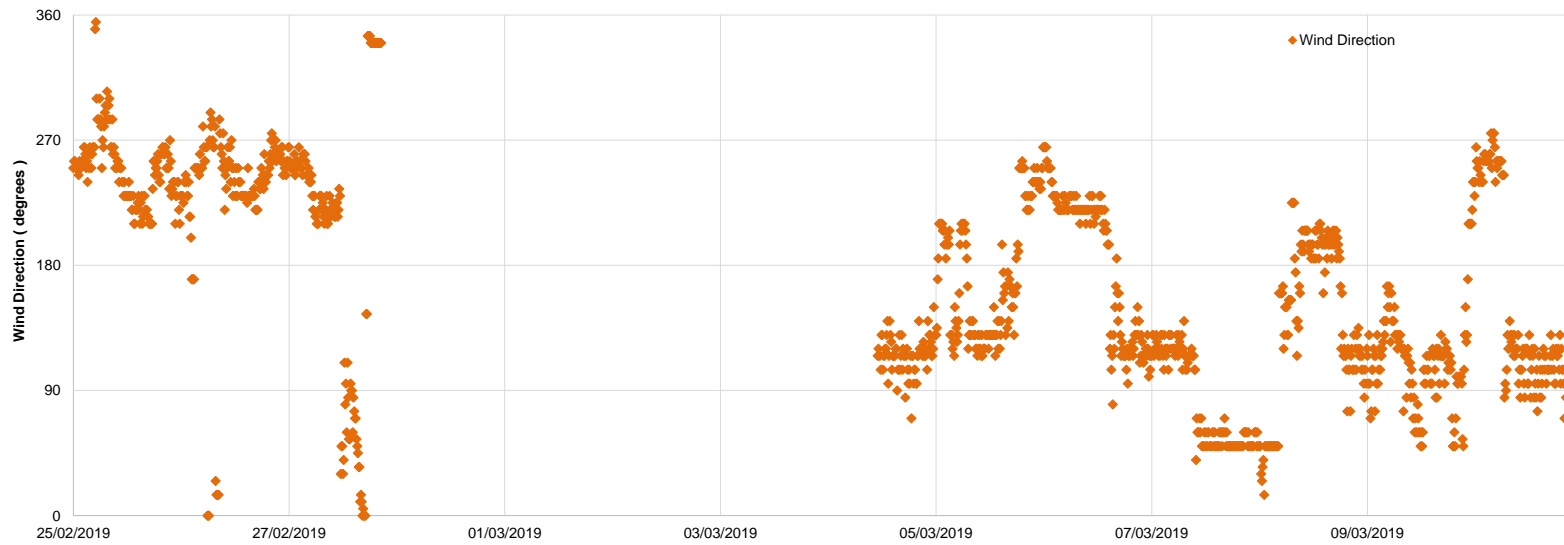


**Title:**  
Preston New Road Methane - 25th February to 10th March 2019

**Project:**  
GGS1628 Preston New Road

**Client:**  
Cuadrilla Bowland Ltd

| Minimum / Maximum Table |         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|
| Parameter               | Minimum | Maximum |
| CH <sub>4</sub> ( ppm ) | 1.1     | 3.9     |



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### 3.3 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)

Trace concentrations of nitrogen dioxide occur naturally in the atmosphere from volcanic sources and lightning strikes. It is also a product of combustion and is present in vehicle exhaust fumes and cigarette smoke. Nitrogen dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere are highly variable, both temporally and spatially.

#### 3.3.1 Methodology

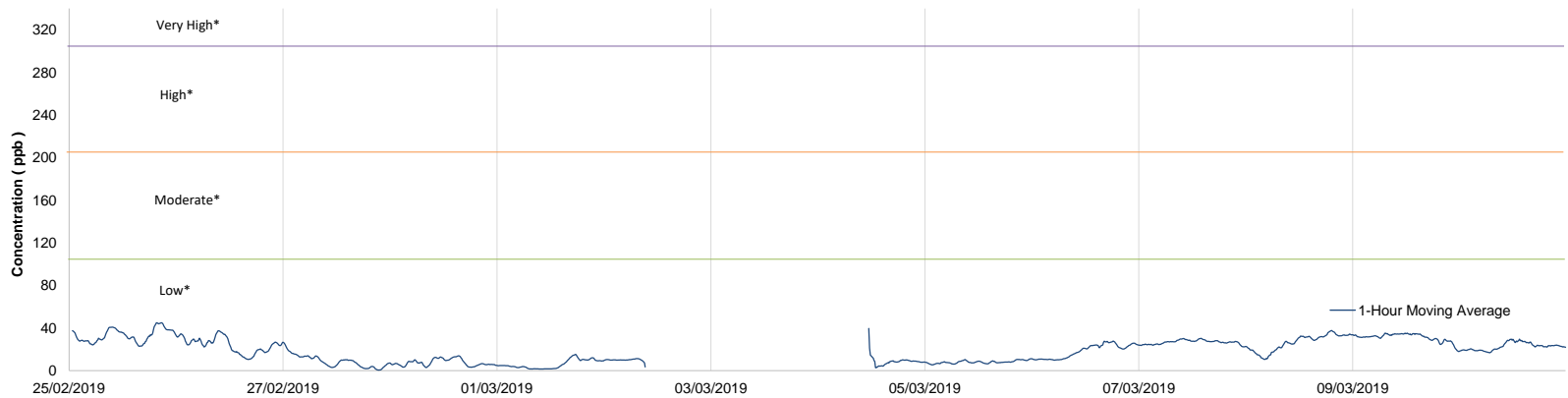
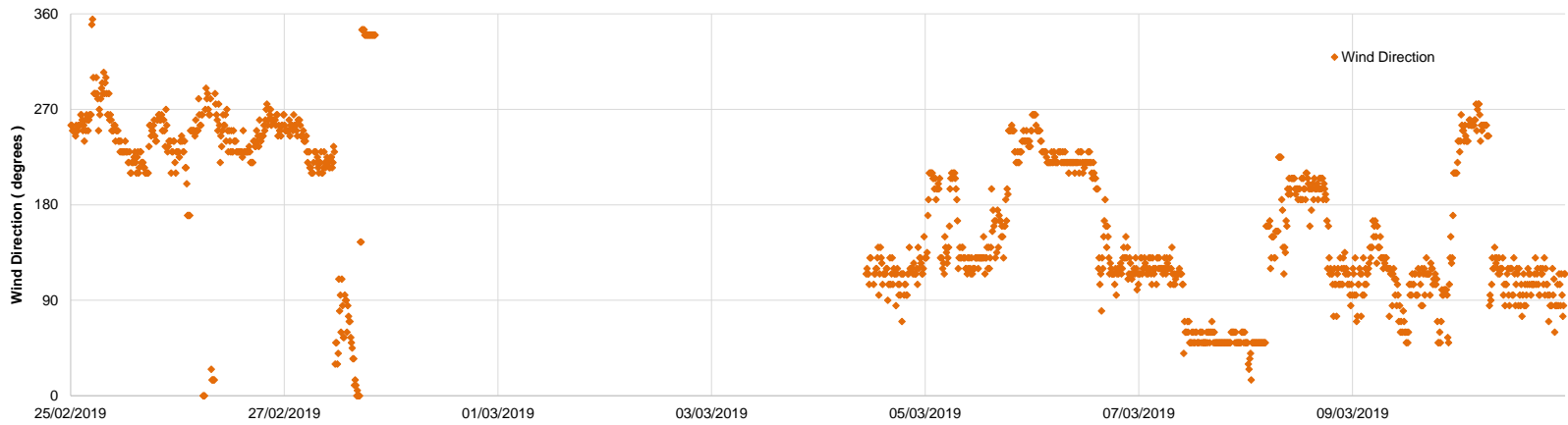
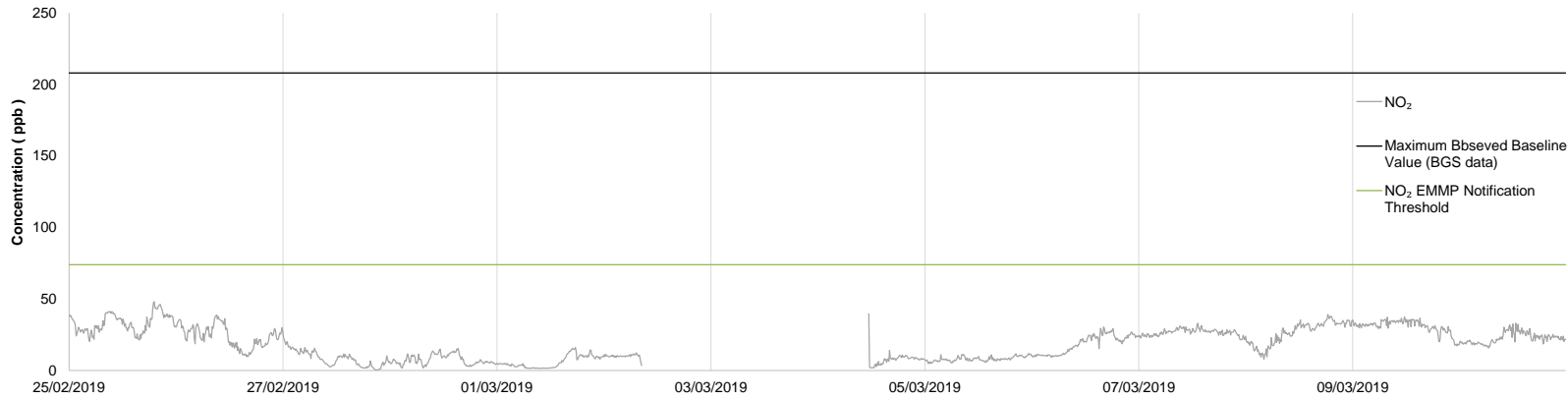
Continuous monitoring of nitrogen dioxide at PNRAQ01 began in May 2018 and results are recorded every 10 minutes. Data is presented below from the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The graph on the following page presents the observed results in comparison to the DAQI air quality bands set out by DEFRA, where results are reported as an hourly mean concentration.

#### 3.3.2 Results

A summary of the continuous monitoring results are presented in the graph on the next page. A maximum and minimum table is also presented. The observed results are graphed against both the threshold at which the site's EMMP requires the Environment Agency to be notified, and the maximum level observed during baseline conditions, that is, prior to site construction. The baseline data is based on results collected by the British Geological Survey at a monitoring location approximately 450m from the site.

The latest nitrogen dioxide results are in line with expected results for the activity undertaken at the site and the surrounding environment. The hourly mean concentration remained within the 'low' band as defined by the DAQI throughout the period.

An issue resulting in a loss of power to the monitoring instruments occurred at the site on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 which interrupted the monitoring period resulting in some lost data. The exact period of data loss is dependent on the individual battery life of each instrument. Additional measures have been introduced to reduce the likelihood of such instances recurring.



**Title:**  
Preston New Road NO<sub>2</sub> - 25th February to 10th March 2019

**Project:**  
GGS1628 Preston New Road

**Client:**  
Cuadrilla Bowland Ltd

| Minimum / Maximum Table |         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|
| Parameter               | Minimum | Maximum |
| NO <sub>2</sub> ( ppb ) | 0.4     | 48.1    |

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\* Boundaries are set by the DEFRA Daily Air Quality Index (DAQI) for Nitrogen Dioxide using a hourly mean concentration. Boundary limit concentrations are converted from µg/m<sup>3</sup> using a conversion factor of 1 ppb : 1.9125 µg/m<sup>3</sup>

### 3.4 Particulate Matter 10 (PM<sub>10</sub>)

Airborne particulate matter is made up of a collection of materials of various sizes that range from a few nanometres in diameter to around 100 microns (100 µm). It consists of a wide range of material from both natural and anthropogenic sources and includes sea salt, soil dust and the products of combustion. PM<sub>10</sub> is defined as particulate matter 10 micrometres or less in diameter. PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in the atmosphere are highly variable, both temporally and spatially.

#### 3.4.1 Methodology

Continuous monitoring of particulate matter at PNRAQ01 began in May 2018 and results are recorded every 10 minutes. Data is presented below from the 25<sup>th</sup> February to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The graph on the following page presents the observed results in comparison to the Daily Air Quality Index (DAQI) air quality bands set out by DEFRA, where results are reported as a 24 hourly mean concentration.

#### 3.4.2 Results

A summary of the continuous monitoring results are presented in the graph on the next page. A maximum and minimum table is also presented. The observed results are graphed against both the threshold at which the site's EMMP requires the Environment Agency to be notified, and the maximum level observed during baseline conditions, that is, prior to site construction. The baseline data is based on results collected by the British Geological Survey at a monitoring location approximately 450m from the site.

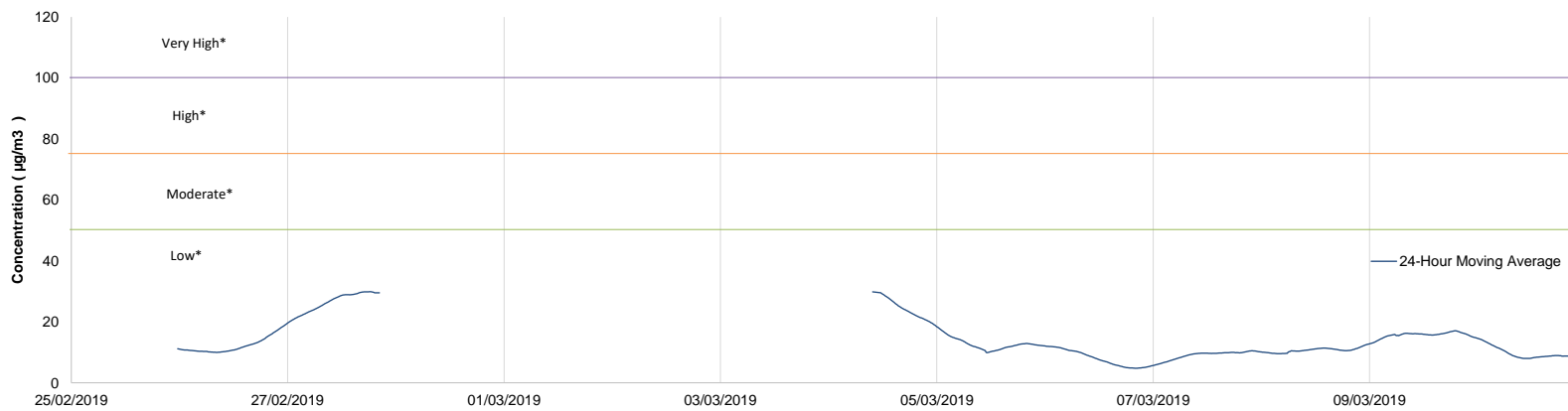
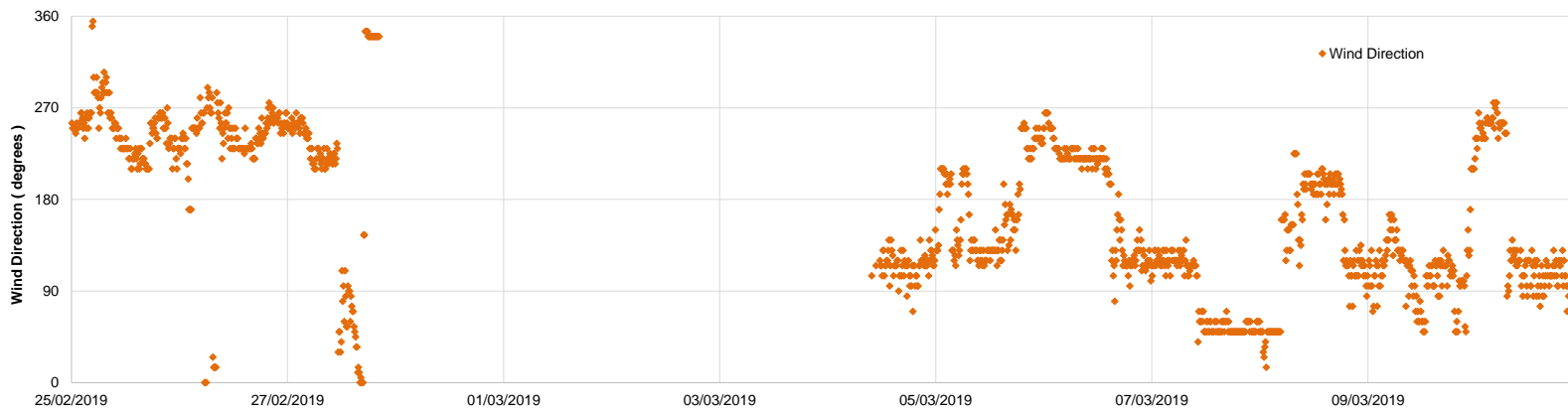
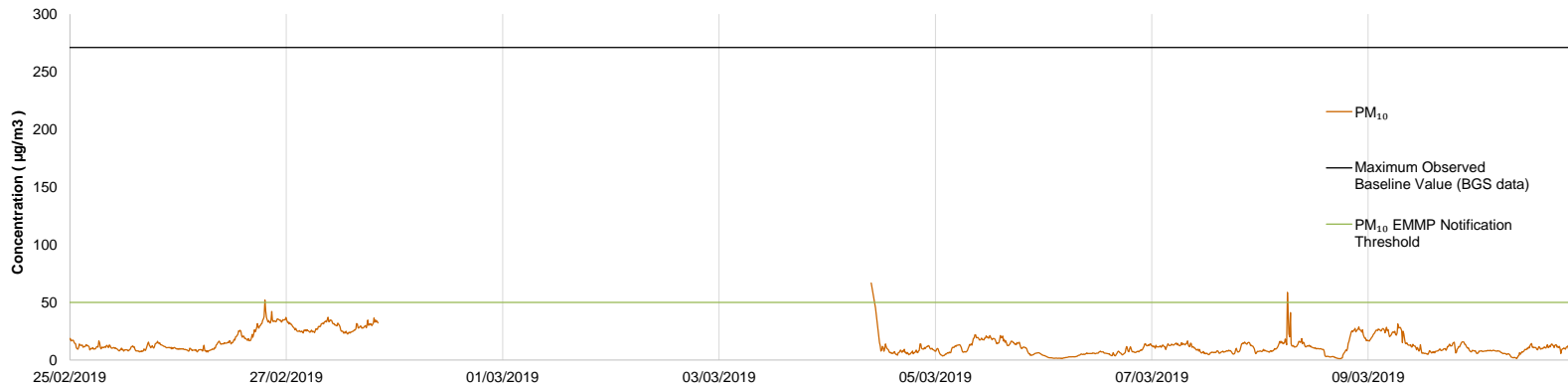
The latest particulate matter results are in line with expected results for the activity undertaken at the site and the surrounding environment. However, there were three instances during the monitoring period where elevated PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations were observed. As required by the EMMP, these were notified to the Environment Agency within 24 hours. The 24 hour mean concentration remained within the 'low' band as defined by the DAQI throughout the period.

An issue resulting in a loss of power to the monitoring instruments occurred at the site on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 which interrupted the monitoring period resulting in some lost data. The exact period of data loss is dependent on the individual battery life of each

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25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019

instrument. Additional measures have been introduced to reduce the likelihood of such instances recurring.



\* Boundaries are set by the DEFRA Daily Air Quality Index (DAQI) for PM10 using a moving average over 24 hours.

**Title:**  
Preston New Road PM<sub>10</sub> - 25th February to 10th March 2019

**Project:**  
GGS1628 Preston New Road

**Client:**  
Cuadrilla Bowland Ltd

| Minimum / Maximum Table                |         |         |
|--|---------|---------|
| Parameter                              | Minimum | Maximum |
| PM <sub>10</sub> ( µg/m <sup>3</sup> ) | 1.2     | 66.9    |

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### 3.5 Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs)

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are a wide range of substances with low boiling points that evaporate from solids or liquids. They occur both naturally and as products used in industrial processes. VOCs are also released by combustion activities and hydrocarbon-based substances. VOCs are generally absent in ambient air unless in close proximity to a source.

#### 3.5.1 Methodology

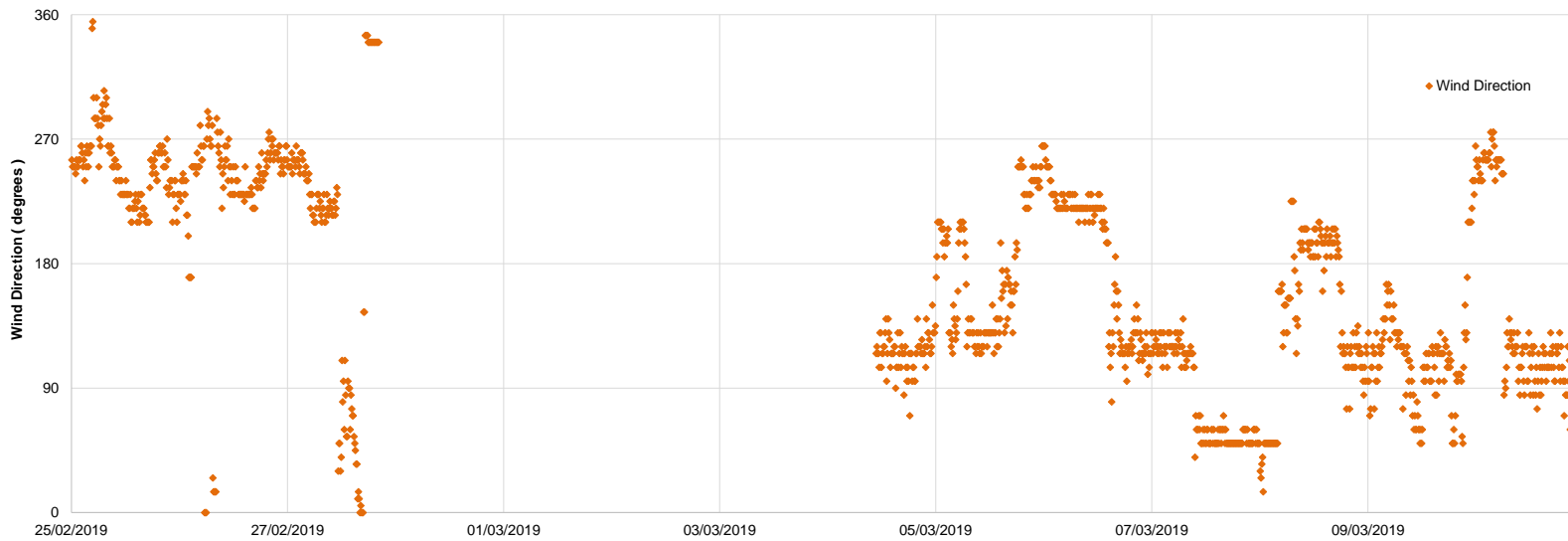
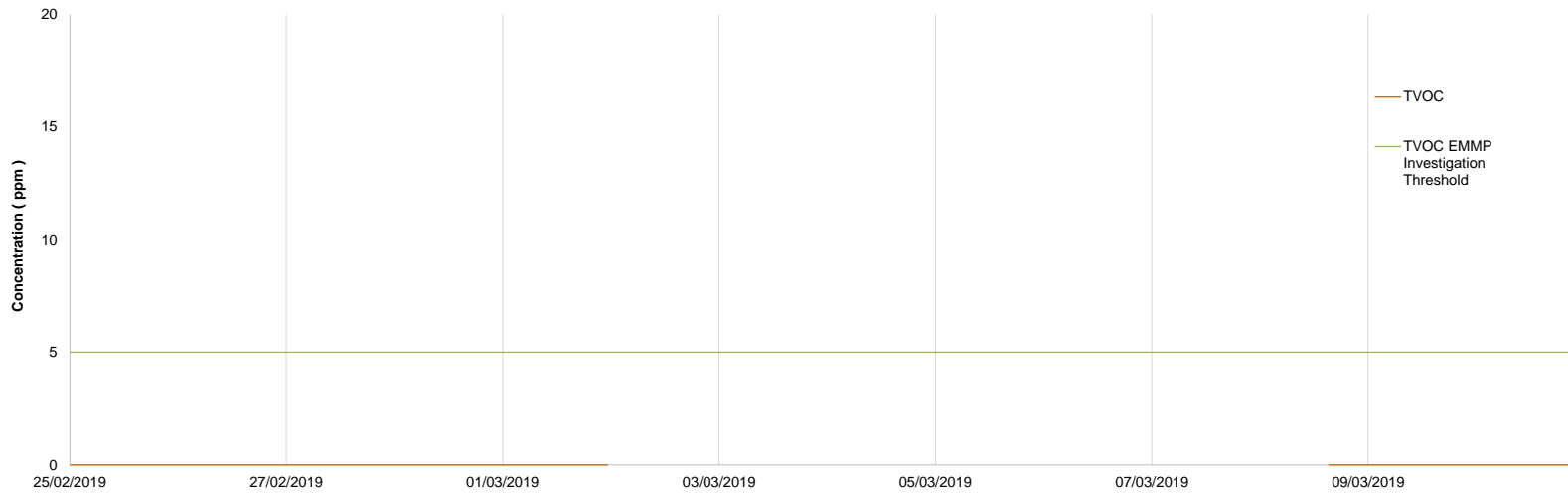
Continuous monitoring of total VOCs (TVOCs) began in May 2018 and results are recorded every 10 minutes. Data is presented below from the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019. No DAQI exists for the TVOC parameter.

#### 3.5.2 Results

A summary of the continuous monitoring results are presented in the graph on the next page. A maximum and minimum table is also presented. The observed results are graphed against the threshold at which the site's EMMP requires Cuadrilla to investigate potential causes. No directly equivalent parameter was measured by the British Geological Survey during the baseline period.

The latest monitoring results are in line with results observed at the site prior to hydraulic fracturing commencing.

An issue resulting in a loss of power to the monitoring instruments occurred at the site on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 which interrupted the monitoring period resulting in some lost data. The exact period of data loss is dependent on the individual battery life of each instrument. Additional measures have been introduced to reduce the likelihood of such instances recurring.



**Title:**  
Preston New Road TVOC - 25th February to 10th March 2019

**Project:**  
GGS1628 Preston New Road

**Client:**  
Cuadrilla Bowland Ltd

| Minimum / Maximum Table |         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|
| Parameter               | Minimum | Maximum |
| TVOC ( ppm )            | 0       | 0       |

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## 4 Quality Control & Assurance

All monitoring equipment operated by GGS is maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines. Annual services and calibrations are undertaken when required and routine visual inspections of the equipment are undertaken prior to deployment and during regular site visits by GGS staff.

GGS operates an Integrated Management System (IMS) that is accredited by QMS International plc as complying with the following international standards:

- BS EN ISO 9001:2015 (Quality Management System);
- ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental Management System), and;
- ISO 45001:2018 (Health and Safety Management System).

All of GGS' continuous monitoring and sampling is carried out to procedures that are subject to an annual audit.

## 5 Ongoing Monitoring Regime

Ambient air monitoring will continue throughout the duration of site operations as required by the EMMP.

In addition, if significant concentrations, as determined with reference to baseline monitoring carried out prior to well stimulation operations and as agreed with the Environment Agency, are observed then the Environment Agency will be notified and the source of the elevation will be investigated.